DO NOT ENTER: /S.N./

07/20/2009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

SPROAT, Martin

Serial No.

: 10/656,554

Filed

May 9, 2003

For

Improved Network Service Provider Architecture

In Communications Network

Examiner

: NGUYEN, Steven H D

Art Unit

: 2419

Customer No.

23644

Confirmation No.

8188

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED APRIL 30, 2009

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir.

In response to the further and final Office Action mailed April 30, 2009, the applicant makes the following submission: